

I. REMARKS

In the June 14, 2005 Office Action, claims 49, 52, 56, 57-62 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over Dwight, (Des. 401,220) in view of Barna (5,775,935). Claims 50, 51, 54 and 55 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Dwight in view of Barna and further in view of Liner 5,708,554. Claim 53 was rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable in view of Dwight and Barna, and further in view of Crane 5,899,761.

In response, Applicant has cancelled claims 49-57 and 62, amended claims 58-61, and added new claims 63-68. Applicant believes the subject matter of pending claims are novel and not taught by the cited references. The new and amended claims do not add new matter, and are fully disclosed in the original specification and drawings.

It is well known from the appellate file history of the present application that Applicant does not believe that the Dwight reference discloses color. However, the amended and new claims herein are clearly distinguishable from the cited references whether or not the Dwight reference discloses colored areas around the sockets. Applicant believes there is no confusion if Dwight is interpreted on its face. Moreover, as conceded by the Examiner in the above-identified office action on page 7, Dwight does not teach "... colored areas for selectively identifying each outlet of such power distribution outlets ...".

Similarly, the cited references do not disclose "[A] method for preventing confusion in users of a multiple outlet power strip having several identical outlets for providing power to a plurality of devices, comprising the steps of: ... providing a separate and distinct color-code to each outlet for selectively identifying each outlet of said power strip; and ... providing color indicia adjacent to each color-coded outlet...having a background color identical to its adjacent color-coded outlet for identifying devices assigned to each colored area as in amended claim 58." The subject matter of independent claim 58 is found at page 3 line 29 through page 4 line 6 of the specification and Figures 1-8 of the drawings.

With continuing reference to his rejection of claims 58-62, the Examiner has stated that "Barna discloses [sic] system and method using a color coded tag to tag a power cable ... of a device wherein the color of the power cord connection cable corresponds with the color of the color coded alignment strip ... and that the colors located near or proximate to the connection port aids a user in determining which cable should be connected with the corresponding

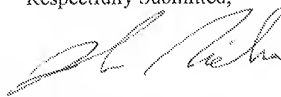
connection port ...". However, Applicant has cancelled claim 62 and believes pending claims 58-61, as amended, are patentable over Dwight in view of Barna.

Applicant has added new claims 63-68. Applicant believes new claims 63-68 provide the scope of claims protection to which his invention is entitled.

II. Conclusion

The Applicant respectfully asserts that the present invention is not anticipated by, nor rendered obvious, in light of the cited references, taken alone or in any combination. Applicant believes that the cited art neither teaches nor suggests any combination of them to achieve the unique, presently claimed invention. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests favorable consideration of the above remarks, withdrawal of the present rejections, and passage of the pending claims to allowance. The Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned for *any* reason which would advance the instant application to allowance.

Respectfully Submitted,



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